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Draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load

Comment On: EPA-R03-OW-2010-0736-0001

Clean Water Act Section 303(d): Notice for the Public Review of the Draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for

the Chesapeake Bay

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Anonymous public comment

## **Submitter Information**

## **General Comment**

I am a resident of the Shenandoah Valley. I am not a farmer, however I work closely with farmers everyday. I am concerned about the EPA's proposed TMDL for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and the burden it is placing on our farmers. Farming is a dieing industry. There is very little profit and a lot of hard work and long hours involved in farming. More and more farmers are opting to sell their land and get out of the business rather than deal with all the regulations coming out of Washington these days. How are we going to feed America and the World without farmers?! I personally do not want my food coming from China - I am far more confident in American farmers than I am imported food! The more farms that are sold the more subdivisions that are built out here in rural areas. The more subdivisions that are built the more runoff we have going into the Chesapeake Bay. Farmers care more about the land and how it is cared for than developers who are making money by selling off small plots and cramming as many houses onto it as they can. Farmers have already implemented conservation BMP's to help with the Chesapeake Bay clean up. More time is needed to allow these practices to show they are working. Washington is rushing this through so they can say they are doing something, but they need to slow down and think about what they are doing. More testing needs to be done to show exactly where the pollution is coming from. My guess would be a lot more comes out of Northern Virginia subdivisions with their chemically treated lawns than comes from the Shenandoah Valley farm lands! SLOW DOWN AND THINK THINGS THROUGH. A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE GOING TO BE HURT BY THIS LEGISLATION - FARMERS AND CONSUMERS ALIKE!